The Industrial Labour Welfare Association Ltd.,

# ADDRESS

BY

# G. D. NAIDU

at a Tea Party given in honour of

**DR. A. LAKSHMANASAMY MUDALIAR,**
**Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University,**

**MR. C. E. PRESTON,**

**SHRI D. L. DESHPANDE,**

**PROF. K. D. JOSHI,**

**Members of the University Commission,**

and

**Reply by**

**Dr. A. Lakshmanasamy Mudaliar**

at

**"GOPAL BAGH"**

**Avanashi Road** **Coimbatore.**

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## COIMBATORE.

Dr. A. Lakshmanasamy Mudaliar, Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University, Mr. C. E. Preston, Shri D. L. Deshpande, Prof. K. D. Joshi, members of the University Commission, paid a Visit to Coimbatore. Mr. G. D. Naidu invited them and gave a Tea-party to them at Gopal Bagh on 9—11—49.

In his Welcome address, Mr. G. D. Naidu spoke as follows:—

*Dr. A. Lakshmanasamy Mudaliar, Chairman of the University Commission and Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University, and members of the commission Mr. C. E. Preston, Mr. D. L. Deshpande and Professor K. D. Joshi and Friends,*

According to my plan decided twenty nine years ago I entered another walk of life four years back. As a beginning, Polytechnic was started in 1945 February. Soon after this, in this very same premises, I had the opportunity to arrange a party for this same Vice-Chancellor, Dr. A. Lakshmanasamy Mudaliar, and University Commission who stayed here then. The Commission came at that time to affiliate the second grade Arts College into a first grade College. My aim of the party then was to oppose the affiliation into a Ist grade College. Somehow or other I was successful though the speeches and discussions by the students, the parents and others were vehement against me. The final product was Arthur Hope College of Technology. The same University Commission with the same Chairman have come today for inspection and granting affiliation. They can give affiliation for the product produced by them. Again, without mentioning or giving any hint about my intention I got the acceptance of the Vice-Chancellor for this party.

I am telling now that this party also is arranged to oppose vehemently their intention of affiliation of this college for various reasons which will be explained later on in different occasions. But I hope the final product of this meeting also will be something better than the previous achievement. In the Ist meeting the affiliation of Arts College was opposed, the College of Technology was started. Then again the Arts College also was affiliated though with some draw-backs. The additional buildings also for Arts College were opened recently by the Minister Hon. Mr. Bakthavatsalam.

In the same way I am opposing the affiliation of this college. I am sure the Commission also will refuse to give affiliation now and the University will produce one more college more useful than any other college, so far opened, though it is a beginning in a small scale in a small place but with new ideas as an example for the future activities of the Modern University. In the same way as the previous example, after this new college is opened, the Commission will give its affiliation when the College is ready to get affiliation without any drawbacks or wantings as the Arts College got the affiliation.

Though the affiliation is not given now, it is not very difficult to get anything from our Vice-Chancellor for the purpose of our youngsters. I will give an example. Perhaps most of our guests do not know except our friend Mr. Ramanathan Pillai, the Principal of Arts College. After the Engineering College was established, accidently myself and Mr. Ramanathan Pillai met at the

Vice-Chancellor's House. There, Mr. Ramanathan Pillai asked me why I opposed the Arts College. I said I have no opposition and immediately I wrote a letter to our Vice-Chancellor for giving affiliation. Now the College is also functioning very well particularly without any strikes, while most of the other colleges are on strike for one day or other for one reason or other, for some mean or shameful demand.

I am going to make one demand in the last portion of my speech. I don't know how the Vice-Chancellor will take this demand with his responsibility. But I hope he will yield and do, because it is not in any way unreasonable though it seems to be a harsh one. I don't want to repeat about the quality, quantity and yield of our fields of the educational world as I have mentioned already in several occasions and more particularly in the previous occasion of a similar party to the Commission. Of course at that time I had only few records for my plea. Now I have more and they can be seen with practical results. These records are not based on theory as mentioned or schemed by several experts as basic education or changed curricula for the modern needs.

I want to say one thing here. What we saw and what we experienced nearly five years back, we are seeing same worse things but with more number of institutions, of activities in one direction, while in another direction, there are less number of institutions and less activities with less quality. Here is one example. Several Schools were

closed but several colleges and polytechnics were opened without buildings, equipment and without staff. Number of syllabus is increased, number of books is increased, number of unnecessary staff also is increased, number of languages is also increased with Hindi in predominance. On account of this, most undesirable politics also are introduced and induced in the Colleges and institutes.

Though our Vice-Chancellor and others desire to eliminate these defects, the politicians and the Government are coming across as stumbling block against any development. Somehow or other, our province is well known and is in forefront amongst other provinces to open number of colleges and schools suddenly and at the same time to close down some schools and colleges suddenly. Neither I nor the commission nor the guests are here to enumerate or hear the inexhaustible defects and difficulties. We shall see our general equipments and desires.

You know other provinces are helping themselves or getting help from Central Government by their influence or force. They are opening selected valuable Central Polytechnics, selected Colleges, selected Industries, such as Main machinery industry in Calcutta, Main Iron Industries in Central Provinces, Behar and Orissa, Radio Communication and Laboratory in Poona and Atom Bomb research laboratory in Delhi or Cálcutta, while we are in the verge of stopping or closing of the industries including mill industries and even the Educational Institutions such as Colleges and Schools.

In one way I like the closing of all Educational Institutions. Then one of my lectures given with the heading that 'the present temples and universities are to be demolished and burnt' will come true Do you know why? It is easier to develop real educational institutions suitable for the modern needs and real industrial factories in place of present temples and universities. It will be easier, but it seems to be not possible to correct or change the way of existing institutions in any direction.

Now, I come to my point. I offered my donation for opening Automobile and Textile Engineering courses on which the Arthur Hope College of Technology developed but the Government has not yet started these Courses. Hence I have given notice to the Educational Department to return my donation as well as rent for my buildings for the duration of the occupation. Though machineries for several lakhs are available in the College and still arriving for the college, the Government has neglected to have the buildings for accommodation of the equipment and to commence the courses.

Though in one side they are beginning to spend lakhs and lakhs for the buildings, in the other side they may close down the college, because of their heavy burden of payment of rupees fifty thousand as rent for the premises. I don't think in the present circumstances the commission will affiliate the college. Of course, I am one who will get the profit by any decision of the Commission whether the College is affiliated or not. If they do not affiliate, the Government will pay my claim without any further

delay. If they affiliate, then my aim is fulfilled. I will have one more chance to get my money back after the affiliation and when the Government closes the college.

Now the College is working with hardship for water, for place and for staff, but producing results better than any other college. Still according to the present state of the college as regards accommodation, finance etc., I don't think the Commission will give affiliation though my desire in one way is that it is to be given.

I gave some suggestions to Hon'ble Mr. Madhava Menon, Minister for Educatian who is very keen to do something good for education. Amongst them one suggestion is about this college.

I wrote this letter to Hon'ble Sri. K. Madhava Menon on 4th November '49 :—

" Dear Friend,

First of all I want to thank you for your very kind presence with Mrs. Menon for the Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association Meeting on the 28th October 49.

In the morning we discussed several points for which you promised to give your decision before the first week of this month. I want to continue my activities for the sake of your pressure or I want to discontinue from the other pressure by disposing of my schemes, plans, ambitions and desires once for all. I don't know whether you have noted all the points in your memo book. I mention here again

so that you can remember clearly every point and discuss and decide and kindly reply me immediately on all the points:

1. **Arthur Hope College of Technology:** I hope you have clearly understood my views and arguments on this scheme. As discussed you have to cancel the scheme of construction of new buildings which may cost 48 lakhs, to purchase the existing place for a low price, to acquire another 25 or 50 acres, and to construct a Physics Laboratory, an administrative building, 10 or 15 ordinary living houses for Principal and other staff; all of which may cost less than ½ of the above scheme. You must remember that by this we are not only saving half of the amount in capital cost, but also with that half the cost we get a complete factory by which we can introduce three industries such as Machine Tools, Electric Motors and Diesel Engines. Further in a short time the recurring expenses of the College can be meted out by the factory itself in addition to production of best engineers with balanced theory and practical training.

For the initial purchase of the place, my offer of a quarter can be utilized.

2. **Education:** Without tools, nothing can be done. For the modern education the projectors and films are the capital tools for imparting education in shortest period with lowest expense for more number of students. I hope more than quarter of the budget can be saved while you can impart best education for masses. Approximately this may cost about Rs. 10 lakhs.

3. **Projectors and Films:** The schemes of manufacturing Setright Registers with our capital of 10 lakhs and with the help of foreign concerns will save enormous labour and money in the Madras State Transport as well as from other transports. This industry can be combined with the above industry for making projector and films as most of these equipments are same for both the industries. This scheme is already negotiated and if Government wishes, it can be started in a short time.

4. **State Transport:** If Government has got any doubt or not able to finance for these two schemes as we discussed in person, I give this suggestion: The Madras state Transport is to be reorganized as suggested by me and before reorganization please take the three months' profit account, and then from the time of re-organization, the transport will yield more than double the profit of previous three months. If anything is got over and above the double profit, that amount will be utilized for the above mentioned two industries. In this case, Government is not investing anything for industries and the profits will be double in the transport in addition to economic and efficient transport.

I hope you will discuss this with your co-friends and will not lose this opportunity because of this opportunity coming free of cost.

With kindest regards to you and Mrs. Madhava Menon.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd) G. D. Naidu."

He has been kind enough to reply immediately in which he has stated that he is still discussing with his colleagues and will give his reply very soon. I have also added some other correspondence in which this subject is dealt with directly or indirectly. Though I asked Mr. Madhava Menon to give his decision before the first week of this month, he is not able to decide as he has to discuss with other friends and several departments.

I feel sorry I am not able to prolong anything. Now I am asking our Vice-Chancellor to take this College into University. I suggested to the Education Minister that this will be very economical for the University who will then be creators of finest institution in South India and can make it a standing monument for the Technical Education.

There are ways and means; if we adopt properly there will not be heavy burden of capital expenses. I can assure you that within a short time there are ways and means to run the college without recurring expenses but with more efficient return by way of best practical and theoretical education. Here also I confirm my offer to the Minister for Education.

With all these explanations and requests, still if you have got any doubt I am prepared to take the whole responsibility of the College if the Government and University agree to hand it over as it is, to conduct it on behalf of the Government or on my own responsibility. My final aim here is that this college must be run with high motives with all

technical courses, with efficient production with cent per cent pass instead of 94 per cent pass as in last year, and to stand as a model one.

This town has got a greater chance than any other place in this province to have a separate University perhaps in the very near future, as we have here Agriculture College, Forest Colloge, Arts College, Arthur Hope College of Technology, P. S. G. College, Nirmala College, P. S. G. Industrial Institute and Arthur Hope Polytechnic and a better atmosphere to add a Medical College and textile Technological College. I hope the Vice-Chancellor may not have grudge or vengeance to allow another University because it will be a competition for this University where he is now. If he neglects the proposal of this Engineering College, we have to take that view.

My another request is more important. As such I hope the Vice-Chancellor will agree without any hesitation and without telling "I will do my best, I will try my best". I think you have not forgotten the previous party here in the same premises, when, instead of opening B. A. Colleges, I asked you to open B. E. Colleges for boys to receive technical education and to open a Domestic Science College for Girls, who are going to become mothers of youngsters who are to make a real Independent India. I give below extract of my speech given in 1945.

**" Domestic Science to Girl Students.**

Teaching of Domestic Science to our Girls is one other useful item of education to be introduced. It may need a general hospital, maternity hospital and a hostel for girls. The general and maternity hospitals already exist here, and there are enough donors, who are prepared to come forward to establish a hostel, if our chief guest promises that the University and the Government will co-operate and give sufficient aid. I am quite sure that if Dr. Sir. A. Lakshmanasamy Mudaliar takes interest, these things can be achieved ".

While I offered the donation for Engineering college, there were some friends who were waiting to offer for Domestic science college. Somehow or other, the latter did not come to life. I think some of the same friends are here but I don't think anyone will come forward at the present pressure they are having from all directions, in this free country always begging behind for some thing.

Now I am prepared to help to a certain extent which I don't want to tell openly because I have had enough of sad experiences. I don't want to tell the shameful, mean, silly and brutal actions taken against me by the Incometax Department for the only reason that I spent my wealth for the public purpose as you have seen what has been going on in the Taluk Office and in this same premises selling by public auction my moveable properties from writing pen to radio communication materials for the last more than one year ending upto last

month. The same process is still going on in one side of the premises while we are gathering in this party. In spite of all their ability, their capacity, their crooked knowledge of old acts and rules in addition to modern ordinances, still, they are not able to catch hold of something from me, while I have not hidden anything. But now if I say openly and if any of the officers are here, they may take quick action to spoil this scheme also. Therefore, I am telling indirectly with the words that I will give my best help. I am not able to give cash nor can I issue cheques, because all my accounts with any banks or private people are attached. Hence I cannot sign anything. When I recently asked permission to sell my properties, that also was refused. When I asked them to give me permission to do business in a company, that also is refused. They have not yet ordered me not to talk such things in parties like this.

When a father gets sickness, on the doctor's advice, the members of the family as well as other friends will never allow the father to do any work to think about anything, to see anything and they won't allow him even to do anything. I thank the Incometax Department for taking so much care on me for not allowing me to do anything but to take complete rest, while they are acting as my accountants, the Government treasury as my cashiers, the revenue department as my sales agents and other higher authorities and Central Government acting as doctors. Unfortunately by these kinds of care taken by them, this contagious disease is spreading more and more and attacks and

deaths are increasing day by day. Of course black marketteers are protected by a portion of black-market expenses. Amongst all these intrigues, it will be a wonder to you to hear that I will give you help though not in the form of cash.

If we approach Government for anything, they say they have no money. Let them try, by closing all the controls and control Departments. Then there won't be food famine, there won't be cloth and sugar famine, there won't be corruption and black marketting, there won't be redtapism and over work for officers, and you can't see these anywhere. Everything will settle automatically to the best standard. Then there will be abundance of money for capital investment, for large developments in Industry and agriculture.

I need not insist on the necessity of Domestic Science. Women in villages and towns with no education or with more education, are not of a suitable type Both these types are hindrances to men. Women of no education are ignorant of social co-operative life, hence they disobey the husbands and others and fight with everyone and want to control everything by rudeness, illiteracy, and robust power, while the educated men are weak. The present educated wife, with unsuitable and unwanted education wishes her husband to be her obedient servant, and wants all others to be servants of them both, particularly for herself, because she has passed B. A., B. L., M. A., M. Sc., B. O. L., L. T., and Social science at Edinborough, Glasgow, Vienna, Berlin, Tokio, Chicago, New

York, Delhi and Bombay. While she does not know that the very simple health rules of taking a few hours sound rest to cure the cold, or a little pepper water with garlic to cure very ordinary fever, that one plantain is equal to four apples, that மணதக்காளி leaves and பொன்னாங்கண்ணி will cure internal disorders, not only she is suffering not only her children and husband are suffering, she wants others' help also. She does not know why she takes brinjals or why she eats papaya and drinks coffee; she does not know at what time and under what circumstances these can be taken. She becomes a slave for these little things because she has not got the knowledge of this little but important ordinary things in life. She can buy costly sarees and jewels even though they are ugly, burdensome and risky. She does not know to welcome and help ordinary people but she is well trained to receive an expensive guest for mere expenses' sake. It is rather rare to see a less expensive educated girl. I need not say about the troubles and hindrances of the uneducated girls which most of us have seen and are experiencing in everyday life. When these girls take up the responsibility to keep the children you can imagine what quality we can find in such children. The children will receive the same fate of a big tree planted in Sahara Desert.

Hence a domestic science college is an urgent need for the girls after their high school period before they go to learn higher studies or before they marry or before they enter any other occupation. They should be taught about the administration of the house whether it is a family house, business house.

agricultural house, or a nursing house. They must know first the value of time, food and its value, their merits and those of the members above and under their custody and care. They must be taught how to cook without wasting vitamins, without spoiling taste or quality. They must know what type of food is suitable for each individual. They must have the knowledge to instruct others as how to eat slowly, what are to be observed when they are taking food, what happens to food after eating; how to adjust the food and diet for the sick and children, how to clean the place and clothes economically and efficiently, how to obtain and from where, their food, cloth and other requirements economically; how to take care of their own maternity and children, how to render first aid to themselves and to others, how to grow their vegetables and other things by their own efforts which will be wasted otherwise, how to get and preserve milk and rear cows, what care to be taken while epidemics spread out and how to help each other by themselves and by co-operation.

No girls are to be allowed to go out without these courses from the colleges whether they are educated upto High Schools or not. When they attain 12 years and before 15 or 16 years each girl must have this course. Of course the aged educated girls may also be taken, but it should not be compulsory. A nominal fee is to be levied; if there is no fee, there is no value. It should not be a burden for parents. The boarding and lodging charges should be met by the parents except for girls from poor families. For them the

Government should provide funds. The course is to be for one year so that each batch of students can have the training in first aid, maternity, home-gardening, kitchen-craft, care of children, administration etc. Here no music or astrology or religion should be allowed to enter as these are the enemies of social life. If any body wants they can have the same after leaving the College of Domestic Science. The students must live in the Hostel though it is a poor lodging place, with poor food compared to their high class living conditions.

If the University starts and gives affliation here itself, I am prepared to arrange a suitable place for providing 50 to 100 girls with a hostel, lecture room, and a living place for a Principal and other requirements. I don't think for this kind of College not much costly equipment is needed except a properly equipped hostel and a few halls for their study while nursing, maternity and agriculture can be carried out in the General Hospital kindly provided by the Government & Seetha Laxmi Maternity donated by Mr. Asoka Chettiar and some grounds outside Coimbatore.

After these arrangements, I will give some other help also, which you should not ask openly until I render that help. I hope you will not refuse and you will not escape from the responsibility of my unreserved offer. If you refuse, by any lame excuses, or by selfishness, or by any prejudice, it will be a sin for you and the Commission and you will be cursed by the young girls though you are praised by all the mothers of young girls for invaluable help

rendered in the maternity side, unsurpassed by many other countries. You will agree that unless the mothers are educated, there will always be diseases surrounding the family. In such cases, the family are always to wait for the doctor for help and naturally doctors will become rich. If women are given this initial training, then no need for doctors; and doctors cannot earn much.

I know one gentleman in Chittoor who has got one formula to cure piles. He is using his medicine in a very crude way. When he came here, I asked him to cure number of friends. He cured them all. I too tried; then I asked him to tell me the formula. He refused to give it out for any cost. Then I asked him to go to an allopathic doctor and learn how to use it in modern ways, or join with such a doctor, so that it can be used for more number of cases. He refused, and said "if I go out, every one will find out the secret, and then I cannot earn any more for my family."

In the same way at Palghat, one man is making a wick containing some medicinal matter. If you use this wick with fire, the smoke of the wick will cure diabetic ulcers very effectively. I have tested with seven or eight cases. And all of them are successful. The Vice-chancellor also may

remember that he took one of the wicks to test for such ulcers, in the maternity cases. I do not know whether he had any opportunity to test, as I doubt if he has any time or chance, as he is spending every minute and hour in this educational work. I tried here to get this formula, even with a a payment of ten thousand rupees. He refused, and tells that if he were to give it out, no one will care for him. There are several doctors also following the same, even in these days.

Now, if you refuse to accept this request, the public have to think that perhaps the Vice-Chancellor also, as a doctor, has to protect the interests of the co-doctors, refusing to do this public right of giving such education for young girls, giving room for the doctors to earn more and more from the ladies who have not received such education.

I do not want to wound anybody now with my rude speeches, with any rude words, but I am asking the Vice-Chancellor to give a hope to the younger girls of this District, and of this Province, or to give a chance for a longer period for doctors to earn by giving his reply in the negative. I have full confidence that he will say "yes" – not merely saying, but he will do it immediately. If his reply is favourable, I request him to take this envelope

on behalf of Industrial Labour Welfare Association Limited and this has got more value for this purpose, while it may have the value of a Rupee or five lakhs to others.

Finally I have to make one more request here. For a long time I had an idea, same as other experts had, that college courses are wasting number of years which can be shortened and can save much time and expense. It was calculated how the knowledge that was imparted to students in a year in a particular course can be imparted within a period of three to six weeks. In order to show this in practice I tried in the Arthur Hope Polytechnic the process of shortening the period. Then I conducted a refresher course last year for three weeks. This year I conducted the same for six weeks. Again I started another course for six weeks where students occupied elsewhere are taken as part-time students. In this course Radio servicing Examination ended in the last week, You can inspect the sets assembled by them for which only parts were supplied. The students themselves designed and made chassis and assembled the parts within 16 hours in the Examination. In appreciation of these students who have no technical knowledge before and who have finished in such a short time, I request you to present these certificates to them, as a token for future.

Again I thank the Vice-Chancellor, the University Commission, Members and the Guests for accepting my invitation and attending this party.

G. D. Naidu,
I. T. Works,
"Gopal Bagh",
Coimbatore.

Phone No. { Residence 40
Office 48

18th October, 49.

To

The Hon'ble Mr. P. S. Kumaraswami Raja,
Premier of Madras.

„ Mr. B. Gopal Reddi, Minister in charge of Finance, Madras.

„ Mr. Madhava Menon, Minister in charge of Education, Madras.

„ Mr. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister in charge of Public Works and Information, Madras.

„ Mr. Perumalsami Reddiar, Minister in charge of Industries, Madras.

Dear Hon'ble Friends,

Perhaps you will be wondering why this letter is addressed to all ministers together. The subject whicb I have taken here is connected in one way or other to all of you. If addressed separately or discussed individually it will take time. Not only wasting time, I fear, my aims also may not be achieved as I have seen in my experience upto now. Hence no friends will misunderstand me or will neglect this request of mine particularly at the

present extra-ordinarily difficult time when no one should lose or waste even very little energy or any materials.

I need not say that the Premier is more interested in developing Education and Agriculture alone as I have seen his keen interest taken in Industry when he came on a commission for enquiry at Coimbatore some time back.

The Hon'ble minister for Education had also keen interest in Agriculture when he was in charge of that department and he made me to continue again some work in agriculture which was left abruptly while I was disgusted for some other reasons. Then when I went to him so that he may not misunderstand me, to inform him about my intention of sending a notice and to take action against the Arthur Hope College of Technology for not fulfilling the aims of the College, he asked me to help him for the benefit of education in whatever way possible. Accordingly for this discussion he came here two or three times though we were not able to discuss about the ways and means of developing proper education avoiding the waste of time, energy and funds. But he visited the cotton plants grown in large scale in the garden for which his visit was pending for a long time. When he came last, he mentioned in his speech "I have often said and felt that he is a national asset and should not be left to his own ideas and doing things and that the state must take charge of him". Here I really felt his desire to use my little knowledge to the maximum benefit. I need not mention anything more of his eagerness to do something better by his efforts.

The Labour Minister Hon'ble Mr. Sitarama Reddi was also taking very keen interest in Industries when he was in charge of that department. At that time, though I sent a resignation of Honorary Directorship in the Arthur Hope Polytechnic, he refused to accept for more than eight months. This also shows that he wants to use me for some public good.

The Honourable Minister of Finance, Mr. B. Gopal Reddi is also much more interested in the education though he is in charge of Finance and Transport. He asked me to give some advice and help for the state transport. Though I have given some schemes for industrial education and for state transport for which I offered my service to the Government at the time of the previous ministry, it was not approved, or taken up either due to some fear or misunderstanding or not understanding. But he asked me to serve on the advisory committee. In this way his interest also is much more in the subject I have taken here.

The Hon'ble Minister for Industries, Mr. Perumalsami Reddi whom I have yet to meet, but whom I know, has much desire to develop the industries and business economically and profitably as he knows more in the business world. The subject which I have now taken is very much connected not only with education and not only with finance, but also it leads to economical industry of the country. Therefore, I am addressing this letter to him also.

Then about Hon'ble friend Mr. Baktavatsalam, Minister in charge of Public Works. Though at my present peculiar circumstances I don't want to attend any functions outside, though I don't want to meet any friends outside, it happened to me to be present at the opening function of the Arts College new building by this Minister. Here when the University Commission came for the inspection before they made the college into a first grade one, I objected and asked them to open an Engineering College and a domestic Science College before they grant the B. A. course for this college. Accordingly the B. A. course was refused, and the Arthur Hope College of Technology was opened. At this time, the whole public of Coimbatore and all the students of the College turned against me misunderstanding that I have spoiled the chance of this college becoming a first grade one and even the students were making noise everywhere as "Down with G. D. Naidu". I did not care for this misunderstanding. I went through my work and the engineering college was started. Then according to my plan, after the opening of this Engineering College, I approached the University for affiliation of this college for B. A., for which I also offered that I would construct sufficient buildings for this course in the College premises. I don't know how this offer also missed the notice of the Government, like several other offers by me and the Government have now spent several lakhs for the building and Hon'ble Mr. Baktavatsalam came for opening this new building.

The Principal personally invited me and I happened to be there to remove the misunderstanding.

Here in his speech Mr. Baktavatsalam mentioned my name and asked me to do some more help for the Educational purpose while the Government is feeling very hard in finance. It is then I saw, Mr. Baktavatsalam's feeling how to avoid heavy expenses without sacrificing anything materially but to get the best benefits. I saw his struggle about finance more than that of the Finance Minister to find out funds for his very urgent priority work. In this way I saw his keen interest and continuous effort taken for the development of Education as well as other works. Hence I am asking him also through this letter to consider my offer of request.

Now coming to the subject, though I retired from my original business some years back, I was making preparations, collecting all my resources either in wealth or in knowledge to start some basic industries big and small, not for the purpose of industries alone, but for spreading knowledge conserving the power and wealth of the people through industries.

When I was doing my ardent work very rapidly, the Income tax Department of the Central Government started a fight against me in an undreamable way. This history is a big one and a very deep one and a strong fight between corruption and justice which I don't want to mention and prejudice you here. However some of my very good friends advised me and wanted to interfere in this matter. For some reasons I have not taken this matter for representation to any one. I am standing firmly risking everything to obtain justice

by its own course without any pressure or influence to set an example that justice has got very good power even above the power of corruption. On account of this, my health also was shattered and temper also weakened, I decided to discontinue all my activities. Though I cancelled, once for all, almost all my industrial programmes still some feelings have not left my blood and brain for doing some work for our presidency and for our Government, if circumstances permit, where there are so many friends like you who have shouldered the responsibilities. Fortunately or unfortunately I was not able to do anything to others according to my desire or plan upto now. And the Government also has not been able to use me for any profitable or useful work in which I can do something though myself as well as the friends who are in the Government are more desirous to co-operate and to do something good for the public.

The Ministers who are in the helm of the Government have got the responsibility to avoid any waste and to collect any wealth from every nook and corner even any useful materials from the interior or from the open dust bins and even from dumb and deaf or from the brains of highest calibre. To do this work they have power which should not be misused or should not lose the chance of using the power whenever and wherever available.

We have seen and heard some subjects springing from the young brains of college youngsters by their enthusiasm of some knowledge acquired fresh and newly, saying that they have invented or they can

do a perpetual motion machine without a prime mover or prepare abundant fuel from the water as wateroleum, from the herbs, medicine for perpetual life. They have invented a peculiar documentary film for rapid education, a machine to put down corruption. They say ordinary ore can be turned into thorium or iron. But these all may look like children's play for the most experienced intellectual brains like you or to eminent Scientists such as Sir C. V. Raman or Engineers like Sir M. Viswesvarayya, Economists like Sir Shanmukham and T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar or Administrators such as Sir C. P. Ramasami Ayyar and Sir A. R. Mudaliar or Educationists such as Dr. C. R. Reddy and Dr. A. L. Mudaliar or Doctors such as Dr. Gurusami Mudaliar and Dr. Pandalai.

It is true that most of the suggestions came from youngsters. May be a theory alone but they cannot achieve anything. We must remember that all these experts started with such numerous theories in the beginning and finally each one found out something most useful, by their continued struggle and experience. No doubt in these trials and experiments there were several blunders committed, enormous energy and money wasted and finally success was got by a few experts in few things. The duty of the modern scientists and experts is to bring down such waste to a minimum. I do not want to say anything more here as I have been misunderstood.

As mentioned above, after a number of so called experiments, experiences and inventions, after enormous expense of time, energy, wealth and

keen interest, I have come to know something and selected few things and have done little work. As some people are calling me Agricultural Scientist, Luther Burbank, Motor King though I am not General Motors, Ford and Christler. I am not a born engineer as Sir M. Viswesvarayya or Dr. Dey. I am not a amazing business man as Birla or Dalmia. By continuous adamant work and experience, I can say that I can do some work in an economical way in the Transport line. In the same way I can do some work in shortening the period of Technical Education by latest methods. I know some economical way to avoid the waste to bring a healthy growth in some industries. Of course as tom-tomed by some friends, I am not a half crack or a printer of currency notes.

As a preliminary start, I give the following suggestions for your consideration:

1. The Arthur Hope College of Technology was started in 1945 by my efforts in which apart from the funds, I have given sufficient buildings for the lecture classes, machine sheds and hostel buildings which were constructed in a short period of 42 days! There was a proposal to have six or seven National Labaratories all over India except in South India in which one of the Laboratory was decided to be had at Poona by the promise of buildings and 5 lakhs of rupees by the Tatas. Then I asked Sir A. Ramasami Mudaliar, who was then member, to give a laboratory at Andaman Islands for 20 lakhs if I give. Then there was no other go for Sir A. Ramasami Mudaliar. He fought with the

Central Government to allot a Physics Laboratory in Coimbatore for which I promised my Gopal Bagh Building for a certain period as well as 5 lakhs of rupees and there was also a condition that the Local Government must provide sufficient lands. Keeping this in mind, I approached the Government here to purchase 100 acres of land round about the present Arthur Hope College of Technology, so that National Laboratory aud Polytechnic and this college can be located together in a quiet, calm healthiest place in Coimbatore District, nay in Madras Presidency!

By nearly 20 years experience I found out this place is in certain line of the Palghat gap the healthiest place in the whole district. This is known only to a very few people. By my accidental experience it was proved practically not by theory. In one of the buildings in this line, some prominent people lived for few months and got cured even without medicine. Even Mahatma Gandhi had stayed there for a few days. Even now there is a nursing home standing as an example in curing the diseases without much efforts of medicine, and another sanitoriun is under construction. Even in this present buildings occupied by the College of Technology as recorded in the beginning of the College within a period of 10 weeks with an exception of 6 students all others gained their weight from 8 to 15 lbs. By this healthy growth of their body their mental strength and balance increased. In the first year itself 73 boys appeared for the examination 70 passed. Even in the last final year examination 12 Electric students appeared and all

of them passed, 27 Civil appeared, 26 passed. In the average in total, 94 per cent passed, with three distinction and 6 first class.

As chemistry and physics engineers invent something by research, in the same way I too have found out after practical application and then located this factory itself in such a healthy place. Then after further experience I planned and insisted to locate the National Laboratory and the College in this place as mentioned above where we can get the best results economically with lowest price but with maximum benefits. All these plans and results as a lighting stroke were shattered by some influence or interest or by misunderstanding or some other reasons to explain which there won't be space in this letter.

Finally some forces worked behind, und planned to shape this college to a place near Agricultural College which can be compared to an Asylum for the students to become inefficient in every respect. Further some other force was working to spoil the credit of the College earned here. I took much effort for this College with the main aim to open Automobile Degree Course in addition to other courses. For this purpose I worked day and night and equipped completely for the college with a substantial amount of Rs. 2 lakhs and this course is not yet opened while the Textile Technology Course also is not yet opened. The Government have not yet collected the amount of 2 lakhs from the Mill Owners Association who voluntarily offered the donation.

I offered again to construct a building and equip the same out of my funds for the physics laboratory for which I asked 50,000 dollar exchange. Government has not taken any action on this matter also. When the Government collected the rent from the students for the buildings, I asked the Government to fix a reasonable rent for the building and from the rent thus collected the income may be distributed as Scholarships to poor students. This wat not also cared for. But now I understand the Government is paying nearly half-a lakh of rupees as rent to a Bombay Company. In this way not only not fulfilling the aims of the College, the Government has made out a plan to spend enormous funds nearly half-a-crore for the College and Hostel buildings by locating in an unsuitable place and also in an abnormally costly place. On account of this reason, I am intending to take action to get back my sum and to stop further activities of the College building until a definite enquiry is made by the Government. I am not taking any action on account of enmity or vengeance as others do. But I am taking this action merely as a public citizen. Hence any of you, friends, will not misunderstand me.

Even now it is not too late to accept if my suggestion is correct when I say that the College can be located in the existing place or round about that place at a cost of half the estimated value. Not only this capital cost, within two or three years, the recurring expenses also can be met by the college itself if my suggestions are approved.

2. To spread out proper education we have to collect suitable men and materials which is not at all possible by the present course taken by the Government in the educational field. For this also, we can discuss and suggest for implementing visual education with new kind of training scheme and plan

3. The Government have made a wrong calculation nationalizing the transport before they nationalized ground and routes by a very simple method without any big financial commitment or any risk of loss. This is a complicated subject to think; though not complicated to bring into action, I took to the previous minister with proper suggestions. Unfortunately they were not able to understand at that time. We can discuss this subject before the state transport loses the profits.

4. All the above mentioned programmes are connected with industries in some form or other which also is to be discussed with above subjects. Some time back when the Director of Industries gave me a list of machines to be purchased for value of more than one crore of rupees, I gave a suggestion and a scheme for starting a factory in which the expenses in consumption can be reduced to one half of the present requirements of the Government.

5. I made experiments in Agriculture in a rude and unorthodox way and the accidental result was an amazing one. I am not a Scientist. This research is to be done by experts. We can leave this for the Agricultural experts to continue the

research. It is not possible to write all the schemes elaborately in this letter.

As I am not able to speak correct English or to draft schemes in English I have not given any definite proposals here as others do. But I want to mention here that I can do it in a practical way with more benefits. I have tried to see the Ministers previously to implement any one or all these ideas in practical work. I became tired and left them in their places. As a final attempt I am addressing all the ministers simultaneously whether I can do do something for the public good.

I have no axe to grind anywhere. I have fulfilled and done my ambitions if I had any. I have no other work or interest pending for my selfish benefit. I am offering now free service for practical work, without any cost or loss to the Government. Then it is your duty to utilize me if you have confidence in me that I can do something.

Usually if any new schemes for any development comes by the routine way through concerned route in the offices, invariably they are dropped even against the wishes of the ministers who want to do something. Now if any of the suggestions are wanted to be brought into practice, the ministers should issue orders to carry out. For such discussion, Madras is not the place in the beginning for various reasons. Therefore I request all the ministers to have a meeting here for a day or two to do something definitely. For this purpose I invite you all to attend the Machine Tool Manufacturers'

Association General Meeting to be held on the 28th instant here at Gopal Bagh, Avanashi Road, Coimbatore which will be an augury for starting some-thing afresh with the consultation of experts and experiences of the members of the Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association.

If you accept my suggestions and if you kindly inform your programme, I will make all the preparations for the meeting and for the proper beginning. I hope this subject will have the first priority than any other subjects or engagements. If by any reason if you don't agree with my views will you kindly send a line in reply, if possible and if no objection, with your kind remarks.

By any reason if this meeting is not possible as suggested above I take the opportunity of thanking Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon, Hon. Mr. R. Sitarama Reddi and Hon. Mr. Bakthavathsalam for their good words showered on me during their last week visit at Coimbatore.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) G. D. Naidu.

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Advisory Committee,

### Arthur Hope College of Technology,

COIMBATORE

held on 5-10-1949 at 9 A. M.
in the A and B Hutment Camp,
Forest College Estate, Coimbatore.

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**Sri C. S. Ratnasabapathi Mudaliar,**

CHAIRMAN.

A party of the members consisting of the Chairman, Sri C. S. Ratnasabapathy Mudaliar, Sri G. D. Naidu and Prof. A. Viswanath, Principal, Arthur Hope College of Technology, Coimbatore, visited the new site for the College and premises for the Hostel and inspected the construction work of the pre-fabricated sheds and improvements to the Hutments A and B in the Forest College Estate.

1. The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 11-3-1948 was read and adopted.

2. The Advisory Committee, having heard the Principal in regard to the progress and developments for permanently housing the College and Hostel read:

(1) Government Letter No. 40481–6/49. A Edn. dated 21st July 1949 from the Secretary to Government, Education and P. H. Department, to the Registrar, University of Madras.

(2) Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee for the Construction of permanent buildings for the new Engineering Colleges, held on 19–9–1949, in the P. W. D. Office, Coimbatore, together with the statement of approximate cost for the building of the Arthur Hope College of Technology, Coimbatore, amounting to Rs. 41,35,000.

I. RESOLVED to recommend to government that in view of the plans and estimates for permanently housing the College having been finished, the scheme should be sanctioned in the Budget Estimate for 1950–51 under Part I.

II. The Committee notes that the Government have already taken steps to get the temporary

building completed before April 1950 as contained in paragraph 2 of Government Letter from the Secretary to Government, Education and Public Health Department, to the Registrar, University of Madras, read under (1) above. The Committee feels that in order to enable the staff of the College to have the costly and heavy precision machines and equipment shifted from its present premises and re-erected at the new site, the P. W. D. should be requested to expedite the completion of the sheds much earlier than April 1950 (i. e.) by the 15th January 1950. The Committee further feels that in order to expedite the removal and erection of these machinery all facilities should be provided by Government for their transport and re-erection, if necessary by employing additional staff. If this work is expedited, Government stands to gain over half a lakh of rupees each year which they are now paying by way of rent. Otherwise, in the opinion of the Committee, the payment of this huge amount will be a waste of public funds.

III. The construction of buildings (referred to in paragraph 5 of the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee for the Construction of Permanent Buildings for the new Engineering Colleges, held on 19-9-1949) together with auxiliary sheds like Boiler House, Gas Plant and other sheds should be undertaken immediately.

IV, The Committee is unanimously of the opinion that after the completion of the new buildings the Arthur Hope College of Technology, Coimbatore, should be renamed as "G. D. Naidu College of Technology, Coimbatore".

Sd. Prof. A. Viswanath,
Secretary.

Sd. 1. Sri C. S. Ratnasababapathy Mudaliar
2. „ R. Venkataswamy
3. „ R. K. Kandaswamy
4. „ G. R. Damodaran
5, „ G. D. Naidu. I disagree with this entire scheme involving not only a colossal waste of funds but also of time, energy, health and wealth of youngsters, parents and government. I will send a separate report shortly.

G. D. NAIDU,
I. T. Works,
"Gopal Bagh",
Coimbatore.

Phone No. {Residence 40
Office 48

26th October, 49

The Chairman,
Advisory Committee,
Arthur Hope College of Technology,
Peelamedu, P. O.

Dear Sir,

I signed in the minute of the meeing held on 5-10-49 in which I mentioned that I will send a separate report shortly.

Originally the proposal was to acquire 1000 acres of land in the Northern side of Avanashi Road between the Aerodrome and A. H. C. T. now situated. For some reason or other which I don't want to mention here, the Government cancelled this proposal and prepared this new scheme which will lead to extraordinary expenses in addition to numerous inconveniences to all, particularly to students and poor return in the products of the college.

I have mentioned these facts more clearly in my speech at a lunch to Hon'ble Mr. V. V. Giri at

the U. M. S. Hostel- (The pamphlet is enclosed herewith). I have also mentioned these facts in a letter addressed to Prime Minister and other ministers recently. (This paper is also enclosed herewith).

I don't want to discuss anything more elaborately here except saying again that the construction of the College building in the proposed place will be expensive, waste and most unsuitable for the purpose for which the Government is constructing, for the reasons mentioned in the two pamphlets. Therefore, this work is to be stopped until this matter is examined by an expert committee and until the present conditions improve.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd) G. D. Naidu.

ST GDN 26 OCT 49—2

Letter dated 26th October 49 from G. D. Naidu to The Secretary to Government, Education Department, Fort St. George, Madras.

REGISTERED ACK. DUE

Dear Sir,

Endowment - not utilized for the purpose - A. H. C. T. - no course automobile degree started.

On 19-4-1945, I gave a letter to Imperial Bank of India at a tea party requesting to transfer Rs. 2 lakhs worth of Government Bonds in the name of the Vice-Chancellor for starting an Engineering College in Coimbatore, for Mechanical, Electrical and Civil Engineering Degree Courses as a part under the then present college.

Subsequently after long discussions and meeting different officers, it was decided to open a separate Engineering College for which on behalf of Mill Owners' Association, Dewan Bahadur Sri C. S. Ratnasabapathi Mudaliar of Coimbatore would give an endowment of 2 lakhs of rupees for starting of the courses in Textile Industry, and myself would

give an endowment of Rs. 2 lakhs for opening the other courses viz., Automobile Engineering Electrical Engineering and Civil Engineering. The Mechanical Engineering course was dropped because of the availability of Mechanical Engineering Course in Guindy Engineering College as well as in the School of Technology, at Madras and other places. For starting the three courses, apart from the funds, I also offered buildings for three years and all preliminary equipments for the college to start with. Accordingly, with very great sacrifice I fulfilled my promise.

Naturally the duty of the Government is to start only the Automobile Engineering, Textile Engineering, Civil Engineering and Electrical Engineering in this college. Instead of this, they started Electrical, Mechanical and Civil engineering courses. The Mechanical Engineering course is not included according to the original discussion. This they have introduced of their own accord while the auto engineering course which according to discussion in the meeting has to be the main subject. This has not been introduced as the first subject. And this has not been taken at all upto now. Textile Engineering course also is not taken upto now. Hence the Mill Owners' Association endowment was not paid by them or recovered by the Government while I have fulfilled by promise.

The Government failed (1) to start the automobile engineering (2) to introduce textile Engineering. In this way the amount which I paid was not utilized for the purpose for which it was mainly intended. Therefore, it is reasonable that the amount which I have paid is to be returned to me with interest. The Government cannot say any excuses such as during the first two years in the College are taught general subjects and then only the separate courses are taken by the students and the two years have gone and no courses as promised were started. The students have passed the final examination in Electrical, Mechanical and Civil engineering courses. Though Government have got some equipment for starting Auto Engineering, they have no idea of starting the said course as I understand from correspondence in which I myself applied for the post of a professor, lecturer or demonstrator in the Auto Engineering course for which I received a reply :

## Copy of proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

L. Dis. No. 1871/C. 1/48 dated 20th July 1948.

Subject : Public Service – Sri. G. Doraisamy Naidu of Coimbatore-offer of Services for appointment on the staff of the Arthur Hope College of Technology, Coimbatore.

Read: Letter RC No. 211/A/48 dated 11th June 1948 from the Principal, Arthur Hope College of Technology, Coimbatore.

With reference to his letter read above, the principal, Arthur Hope College of Technology, Coimbatore is informed that as affiliation of the College in Automobile Engineering Course for the BE. Degree has not yet been granted by the University of Madras, the question of appointment of Mr. G. Doraisami Naidu on the staff of the college does not arise at present.

It looks that no efforts were taken for affiliation of Auto Engineering Course while they have already obtained affiliation for other courses. But it seems no efforts were taken at least to start this course in the beginning of this academic year. In this way the government has failed to carry out the aims of the college as originally agreed. Hence I request the government to return the amount endowed with interest.

**Buildings Rent.** Originally when I offered the buildings, no discussion took place about the question of rent. It was not decided whether it was free of rent or a nominal rent. Subsequently, after

opening the College I wrote a letter to government to fix a rent for the buildings occupied by the College and to make out a fund, the income from such funds to be distributed as scholarships to poor students. While they are collecting rent from the student, rent from the staff and while they are using the complete premises for the college purpose, they have not taken any steps for my request. Of course, I have given several other materials for more than one year for the whole requirements of the College and Hostel, stationery, typewriters, drawing board, furniture, electric bulbs and several other materials for the use of college and hostel. I am not claiming anything for these materials. But I am asking to pay the rent for the buildings for the 3 years as mentioned in my letter.

I understand the government is paying a rent of about Rs. 45 to 50 thousand per year for the present owners. Of course the rent market is low now, but in the period of 3 years in question, rent rate was high. I am not demanding the high rent. I am taking the rent on the basis of present rent paid to Bombay firm at the rate of Rs.50 thousand per year. For 3 years it is 1-½ lakhs. I request this amount to be paid.

As mentioned above the sum of Rs.3½ lakhs is to be paid within two months without discussion or argument. I want to mention here that unless this

amount is paid within two months from the date of this notice, action will be taken for which you will be held responsible for the loss and expenses.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd) G. D. Naidu

Copy to: 1. The Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

2. The Minister for Education, Government of Madras, Madras.

BY. GDN 26 OCT 49—6 

Speech Delivered by

## The Hon'ble Mr. K. Madhava Menon

on the occasion of the Tea Party given to
President and Members of the
Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association

**on 28th October 1949**

*Mr. President of the Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association, Mr. G. D. Naidu and Friends,*

I was getting myself afraid of this ordeal of having to address you on subjects which I do not know. I also casually happened to attend the Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association meeting upstairs and there also I spoke something on nothing. (Cheers) And my difficulties have been even greater because Mr. Naidu wants certain commitments in my hands now and here, on matters which it is not possible for me to commit myself or even perhaps the Premier, without thinking considerably over these things, but I have a feeling as I expressed the other day that Mr. Naidu has to be nationalized. It is a dream of mine which I feel that if it materialises, will be really an establishment of centralised machine tool organization in our country to nationalise Mr. Naidu and his services. The help that he has offered to-day after various attempts of offer and then his discomfitures is indeed a very great

example of his patience that he is still prepared to offer help in these matters. I shall try my best to see to that, more or less a sort of final ultimatum, "take this or be done with it" That is the way in which he has said so. Two or three suggestions that he has made here, I shall certainly try my best to work up and make use of Mr. G. D. Naidu, not for his purposes but for our common purposes to stablise the independence that we have won. In fact, I have been trying my best to curry the favour of Mr. Naidu to get hold of his projectors and the films that he already has for the use of some of our schools. I have seen the educational films that he has already with him and my attempt is to get them from him as I tried to make him work with cotton plant on which he was doing some sort of research. I am rather anxious to go by train at 6-45 P. M. and that is why I am rather halting in my speech, because once I begin to talk I may miss the train.

I want to tell you, what happend regarding cotton. I came here one day while I was Agricultural Minister, when, Mr. Naidu took me round to a cotton tree which he has grown, as some sort of a miraculous work which he has done with the cotton that was grown, the staples of which was over $1\frac{7}{8}$ inch or nearly two inches. It was my surprise whether this could be grown. Then I asked him to give me some seeds, and show me the way they are to be grown. He said, "I won't give them to you. On certain conditions only I will give; otherwise I won't." I again tried on another occasion to get these from him. He would not. Then I

asked the Agricultural College Cotton Specialist to come and contact Mr. Naidu and try to get the secret out of him (Laughter). But somehow or other he could not do it even as I could not do it. And so after a few days' attempt, he wrote to me "this is a sort of cotton which is called some such thing, some botanical big latin name, whatever that might be, I saw the cotton, I saw the thing but it cannot be cultivated on a large scale in this country and so there is no use of trying further in that matter."

I wrote to Mr. Naidu again to say that it cannot be cultivated on a large scale. But he gave me some cotton seeds which I planted and the result of which was I got some few pounds of cotton which I found very very useful in my hand-spinning. I spin about very fine yarn between 50 and 60 counts on my charka. I found that I could use and get much good yarn from Mr. Naidu's cotton and so I wanted to cultivate it further. I wrote a letter to Mr. Naidu in despair, "what is the meaning of your finding out something and allowing it to die with you? If you really want to do any good, let it not die with you, give it out so that we may try on a large scale". He did not reply to me. But one day when I was going to open the agricultural section of the Tirukattupalli high school, out came a parcel and letter from Mr. Naidu saying, "you wrote to me like this some time ago; since you have asked me, I send you herewith some seeds of that cotton, please plant them in the school and see it for yourself". But I did not know what he was doing. Last time when I came he simply in his own

extraordinary usual unfathomable ways, asked me to get into his car. And I did not know where the car was going and even evading the police people who are after me. He simply drove me on for some distance; I did not know where then and at some place he stopped me and I found it was Podanur. There was a very big building and from there he took me. Then he said, "Look at this. When you were agricultural minister your department told you that this cotton cannot be grown on a large scale. Here are 4½ acres of land where I have grown this cotton. See the size of it, see the size of the cotton in front of my house, and see the size of the cotton which you planted at Tirukattupalli. Your department saying that this cannot be grown on a large scale is all non-sense. It is all a question of trying to do things."

It only strengthened my belief that his help in the matter of Visual Education by projectors will help me considerably in the matter of our village education where, with the existing number of schools, the existing number of teachers even if they are doubled or quadrupled, we will not be able to give education even in ten years which could be managed in a smaller time with better effect if we have larger number of projectors and the wherewithal to work those projectors. That was the reason why I came again here to-day because he told me that if I come here to-day he will help me further in that matter. (Laughter) That is the reason for my presence. He has helped me indeed but he has told me, "Your government is going to do a stupid thing regarding this Technological College, you can do

something better". And he offers help. We have discussed it further this morning within ourselves, and I shall try my best to persuade my colleagues to agree to it and use the services of Mr. G. D. Naidu for the benefit of all of us.

I heard with interest Dr. Shanmukham Chetty speaking here at this conference also. I join issue with him that the Madras Transport Service is working at a loss. It may not be as efficient as he would like to have it or perhaps according to the strict all types of efficiency but I am sure this much that to-day it is not working at a loss. It is not being worked by me. I do not know, the business aspect of that, or any other business and so, I cannot say more about it. But I agree with him with my little experience of government directly doing things, directly attempting to work industry through secretariat is a thing which we should avoid. I know literally by having an experience of it in that line.

There is nothing wrong in telling people who are my masters, who have voted and sent me there for the present position exactly and so, I have gained much by attending this though I was really wondering why Mr. Naidu should ask me a minister for education and law to be in the company of machines and machine tools, and in the company of people who are all experts in the line.

I was wondering but I have gained much by coming here and I thank Mr. Naidu for it though I cannot thank him for putting me in rather embar-

rassing situations by these offers in public and asking me for an answer forthwith. Then he says "now I want to know whether you take them and carry them out into action". That is what he asked me to do. I shall try as much as I can, because we have difficulties, and we have our own experts who are in despair always. I have found that experts are in despair and so what our experts are going to say I really do not know. I have to consult my experts in the matter. But I go as a person fully convinced that working like this will help us.

NAMESTHE.

Speech delivered by

**Dr. A. Lakshmanaswamy Mudaliar,**

Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University

**on 9th November 1949.**

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*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

After having heard the speech of Mr. G. D. Naidu to-day and of having been the recipient of the hospitality of our esteemed friend Mr. G. D. Naidu, I need hardly tell you that Mr. G. D. Naidu is a figure known in All-India circles and known to a wide class of persons from all walks of life, eminent scientists, eminent statesmen, eminent financiers, eminent industrialists, eminent engineers and technologists. In fact, I remember the occasion when, in the Madras Legislative Council, the Leader of the Opposition twitted the Government very badly by citing Mr. G, D. Naidu as a person of constructive statesmanship whose wisdom and experience has not been fully utilized by the Government for deserving causes. Having known him so intimately, having followed some of his activities and having realised the keen interest that

he takes in the welfare of young men and women I can assure him that I cannot take any offence at whatever he has to say; for, behind all that gruff manner and the rough expression that he occasionally uses, which, I am not prepared to say, are not exactly deserving, there is a kindly heart which always beats in unison with the under-dog whatever his position in life. I wish there were more of straightforward talking and thinking of the nature in which Mr. G. D Naidu indulges. I was just hearing to an electrical recording of the speech taken simultaneously on another occasion and I know that whatever I say is being recorded (Laughter) but yet, I shall cast that prudence to the winds and speak a little straight-forward on this occasion; for, I believe like him that a little straightforward talk is always useful (Hear, hear).

Let me state without any intention of trying to be modest that the Vice-Chancellor of a University has got limitation far more than any of the responsible gentlemen of Coimbatore to-day. But, at the same time, it is not that I wish to shirk any responsibility, nor to put that forward as a pretence not to straightaway answer the many questions that Mr. G. D. Naidu has raised. In the first place, the address that he has read is full of so many thoughtful suggestions that it would be a piece of impertinence on my part to try and answer all of them. In this

present setup and the future of India as we visualise it, there is a great deal of necessity for us to think in a straightforward manner and to ask ourselves the question "Are we doing our duty to posterity by the manner in which we are conducting ourselves? And I have often asked myself that question and I have much confessed that I have had my own cause, my own pricks of conscience whether at all times we have been in a position to respond in the manner we ought to, in favour of the younger generation that are going out.

Mr. G. D. Naidu spoke of the possibilities of this city and of his intention that one day a university may spring up here. May I remind him that almost seven years ago I had that vision and almost five years ago I said so in a speech that I made in this very city, that I can think of no place better than Coimbatore to start a technical or technological university and no city better situated and with citizens of such repute which can shoulder this great task (Applause). It is true that when the University Commission came to report upon the appeal of the College to become a first grade we were made to interest ourselves in the possibilites of technical and technological studies in the place. May I remind Mr. Naidu, Dr. Shanmukham Chetty, Mr. Rathnasabapathi Mudaliar that, when they came forward with this generous offer to start this technological

college during the Governor-ship of Sir Arthur Hope the University immediately complied, setting aside all the restrictions of statutory obligations, that it was the first and last time we went to the Senate for an amendment of starting of a college of this nature and that we assured the Senate that it would be the last time, that Coimbatore was a unique place, that its citizens were more unique, that the opportunity was most unique and that we should not lose such an opportunity.

That was given because of the full hope and expectation of the University that all the promises that were then made will be fulfilled. I am sorry to have to say and the correspondence on the subject with the management of this college will make it abundantly clear that no college has given a greater head-ache to the university of Madras than the Arthur Hope College of Technology (Applause). The Principal is here and I am not going to conceal any of these things because he should have been known all the correspondence that passed between the University and the management of the college. The University is not interested in maintaining or affiliating any inefficient institutions – be the management what it may be – and the university makes no difference between State-managed Institutions and private-managed institutions. There was a time when the University looked to state-managed institu-

tions to give a guidance to private-managed institutions. I cannot say with the same amount of confidence that at present the situation is what it was fifteen or twenty years ago. I have myself had frequent occasions to suggest, to request, may almost say, to give ultimatums to state-managed institutions that unless they are prepared to come into line with the demands of the University, the University will have to take a firm line of action and if occasionally we have tempered, it is because the quality of mercy has to be shown, not in the interests of the managements concerned but in the interests of the students which are our responsibility as much as the responsibility of the management or even a greater responsibility of the university than that of the management. It is because the university recognises institutions that students come to join those institutions. If the University were not to give its hallmark of recognition, I do not think that many institutions will have the number of students that they may draw. Institutions of the kind that Mr. Naidu is responsible for, stand in a different category altogether. But, unfortunately, such individual attention, care, anxiety, thought and consideration are not available to all institutions, nor can I say that managements respond in the manner in which Mr. Naidu tries to respond to the responsibilities attached to the management of an institution. That is the trouble with the university.

Since I came here I have been hearing funny stories. Let me assure you that I have come with my eminent colleagues on this inspection tour as a part and parcel of the duty of the university. We

have, what is known as, quinquennial inspection commissions sent to inspect all colleges. In the years 1946 and 1947 we inspected all colleges affiliated in the faculties of arts and science and this year we thought the time had come when we should inspect all colleges, affiliated in the professional faculties. The faculty of engineering is the first of its kind which we have taken and we have come here not at the behest of anybodyelse, not certainly because the Government wanted us to come, but it is simply because the University had to fulfil its role of trying to see whether the colleges were keeping to the standards that we expected them to keep. And let me tell you this that, when I speak of the standards, I do not mean for a moment the examination results, for I can assure you – and this is a strange confession to take on the part of a Vice-Chancellor, – that examination tests are the least important tests in the student's career or in his training. We have come here to see whether the facilities for training are there, whether the staff is given a reasonable opportunity to train the students properly, whether the conditions of life and the amenities that are to be expected, the minimum amenities are forthcoming for the students, whether the atmosphere of the college is such as to conduce to the training of the citizenship which we all feel is one of the most important considerations that are to wave with us, especially after the 15th of August, 1947. You may take it for granted that any other suggestion that may be made to you is entirely out of core and we have no intention to fall into any traps whatsoever.

Having said that, let me now tell you that my hope, my expectation was, that Coimbatore will be a great centre for technological studies. As for back as 1945, when the post-war reconstruction committee was appointed by the then Government which was called an Advisers' Government, I always thought that that was a good expression because occasionally some advice was available then (Applause) – whether the same can be said now – because it almost seems as if a d v i c e is a superfluity with the Governments of most provinces to-day. But, anyway, the Advisers' Government did constitute that committee. As a member of the Committee, I stood up and in one of the recommendations moved that the forest college in this city, which was unfortunately closed in the first Provincial Congress Ministry in 1937 should be re-opened and that, not only should it be re-opened but that it should be made a collegiate form of education with research in forestry so that it may be one of the most upto date colleges in India. The suggestion was accepted. Immediately, believing in the Government of the day, as I still am inclined to believe inspite of many many adverse circumstances, I rushed up to the University and got the University authorities to frame regulations and to institute a degree in forestry. A Bachelor of Science Degree in Forestry has been instituted in the University of Madras. Regulations were being formed and we then asked the Government to take steps to see that this forest college was opened with a Degree Course in Forestry. It was the Advisers' Government then. The Adviser concerned fortunately or unfortunately sent this on to the Chief Commissioner of Forests

who sent in a reply to say that this suggestion was certainly absurd, that what the forest department was intended to do, what it wanted was, people of the Diploma standard who were all that was necessary for the Forest Department, that there was absolutely no purpose in starting a Degree Course. If the Government had kept that letter with themselves and said that they were unable to open that course, I could not have had any opportunity to reply. But, unfortunately, they sent that reply to the University for information and I can tell you this that never in my twenty-five years' experience with the University, has a more strongly worded protest been made to the Government and the Commissioner concerned asked to withdraw his remarks. He was unfortunately not an Indian and I said that it is inconceivable from a person coming from a country where six Universities had already established Degree in Forestry, where one has to hunt for a Forest and imagine that there is a Forest (Laughter) somewhere or other, where the greatest forests are like a small hillocks round about Coimbatore. If that was possible in a country which had no forest at all and nothing worth doing in the forest, it was surprising that in this country with the abundance of forests there should be so much ignorance on the part of the Chief Adviser of the Government that he should dare to suggest that why a Degree Course in Forestry should not be established. I may incidentally state that on a former occasion, just a year ago I think, or probably little earlier than that, I was surprised to find a report in the Press by a responsible member of the Government blaming the University for not taking

any action in the starting of a Degree Course in Forestry. I shall not refer to it further.

But my object in mentioning this is to assure Mr. Naidu and friends here, that it has been our endeavour always to develop in this place these technical institutions and I even see that the present college of technology is slowly moving into the campus which I had suggested at the very first instance on behalf of the University, and is gradually building up some sheds – I take it that they are sheds but ultimately hopes to develop to something better–. I said the Agricultural College, the College of Forestry, the Engineering College, the Technological Colleges should all be in one campus and we went further and suggested through the then Director of Public Instruction, Dr. Dey, who was in intimate contact with me on this subject that the Science Department of the present Arts College - what is called an "Arts College" – should also be moved over there so that you could have the higher scientific courses, the technological courses in agriculture, in forestry, in engineering, in the various departments of technology.

Mr. Naidu has very rightly complained that the promise that was made by the management that Automobile Engineering Courses and Courses in Textile Engineering have not yet been started. May I say once again that the University, true its promise, got the necessary degrees, got the necessary regulations framed and if any of you are interested, if you will only refer to Volume No. 2 of the calendar you will find a full course

set out there. All that is necessary is, that you, gentlemen of Coimbatore, should take the lead now and by whatever means it may be possible, you should bring about that consummation and Coimbatore will be a centre - the Manchester of South India, as what I said to several friends. That is my dream and still continues to be my dream. Mr. Naidu may be assured that far from being jealous, far from considering that I should put some spokes in the wheel I am most anxious that you should convert yourself into a technical University in Coimbatore. If Roorkee with one Engineering College could, on the occasion of its centenary, try to become a technical University of Roorkee why not Coimbatore with so many facilities that are available here? (Applause) and I will tell you this that the Madras University has been a very prolific mother. Perhaps, Mr. Naidu may say that I have been the mid-wife for that occasion (Laughter).

Whatever it may be, within these twenty-five years that I have been associated, many children have been born out of Madras University. Why, the Mysore University, the Osmania University, the Andhra University, the Annamalai University, the Travancore University and now this new expression "The United States of Travancore and Cochin University" are all children of the Madras University and I said on a former occasion when this very question was put to me before the separation of the Travancore University, I said "we are sorry, you are leaving us; but, like the true Hindu parent, you see, his daughter have you been in my house, but we mistress in your own, welcome, we give

you the blessings we wish you well, we cannot help feeling a regret, a little thank, a little tear down our cheeks because you are separating from us but that tear is both a tear of joy and a tear of sorrow which cannot possibly be mistaken and we want you to realise that, at all times the Madras University is most anxious to play the game with you and help you on your own footing."

One word more. Mr. Naidu has been speaking about this domestic science college. Let me assure him again that within the last seven or eight years, it has been our endeavour to see that a type of education that our sisters want, our daughters want, is made available to them. He probably does not know that we formed a council for the consideration of the question of women's education. When women speak of equal rights, they always mean that all the rights that women enjoy should be theirs plus the additional rights that are peculiar to their sex (Applause) and we realise it. Forty years it has been my privilege to study the psychology of the other sex and I have made myself what I am by a close study of that psychology (Applause). I have therefore nothing but gratitude to the sex that made me stand on my legs. Let them have it, we can afford to stand up and face more difficulties than they can. Therefore, we said 'let them have all the opportunities that are open to men' and so you find in the University of Madras, what you will not find in any other Indian University that there are women now taking to the faculty of engineering, taking to the faculty of agriculture, taking to the faculty of law, taking to the faculty of medicine,

taking to the faculty of nursing almost exclusively and for the first time taking to the faculty of veterinary science. I appealed on a former occasion at a gathering of the students of the veterinary college that I wish more women will take to veterinary science because then they can look after the domestic animals much more carefully than they do at present (Laughter and Applause).

But whatever that be, apart from the fact that they are entitled and eligible and have taken full advantage of these courses, may I say this, that so far as the particular type of education is concerned, we have not only music for which Mr. G. D. Naidu has a certain amount of antipathy, which I can understand, if all of you cannot appreciate – sometimes we feel that there is a little too much of music in this world, particularly if you turn on a particular type of radio, you sometimes wish that there were less of it – but that apart, we have a course of painting, we have a course of household arts. The course in house-hold arts comprises almost subjects that Mr Naidu has mentioned and if you will kindly have the patience to refer to the calendars issued by the University of Madras, musty volumes not well printed because of economy, but still containing some little useful information, you will find that that course of household arts gives you an opportunity to learn something of cooking, of household duties, of social science, economics, domestic economy and even of managing not merely children but also husbands (Laughter). Well, I hope that will be realised by far more.

Then there is another subject which is taken at the graduate stage which is called "Home Science" wherein a greater amount of this detailed work in a scientific manner is developed so that the object of the university has been not merely to give, what may be called, the more superficial type of academic education but something fundamentally useful for the citizens to play their part worthily and well in their respective spheres of activity and I should welcome the opportunity if the citizens of Coimbatore wish to have it of a college of domestic science being opened here, side by side with all these technical and technological institutions. I even feel that it will fit in very well with the scheme of technical and technological institutions and it is for you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to accept the offer of Mr. Naidu and to make his hopes a reality, his expectations fulfilled and his ambitions realised during the stage of his exorbitant enthusiasm.

Mr. Naidu has dived into many many difficult paths and thorny paths. I must apologise if I do not attempt to follow him in these paths but I will end by saying once more that you may depend upon it that whatever is feasible will be done by the university because our objective is the same and I exhort you as citizens of a very beautiful city – one of my colleagues was telling me that Coimbatore looks to be the most, well, shall I say what exactly he said was, "the best kept city". Well, that may be true, but I am not quite so happy because I have seen Coimbatore with better days. I think it is getting older and getting some wrinkles in her face

and I want you to see that some sort of treatment is done so that the wrinkles may not be apparent or may not grow. Keep your city beautiful, keep to your great ideals and cherish your ambitions because fortunately Nature and God has given you an abundance which it is in human power to fully utilise and exploit. I wish you the best of luck.

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## Vote of Thanks

by

**Rao Saheb K. Nanjundiah**

on 9th November '49

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

Having many things to do in this hall of Do-All Machines, Mr. Naidu believes that every one must be prepared to do whatever he bids and the first thing that I have been asked to do is to thank our chief guest, not only for having consented to be here and to infuse so much of spirit in us, but also in a way to encourage Mr. Naidu himself, not only in the educational activities, but perhaps in giving more and more teas and more and more entertainments, for he seems to have taken it as a hobby and we all join him in culturing this pleasant hobby. An eminent educationist has certainly made us believe that we in Coimbatore have not only a great future in the matter of industries but in almost every form of educational activity and industrial reconstruction; and he has further gone ahead and assured us that the University will not stand in the way of any development so far as this city's cultural, educational and other needs are concerned. As citizens, we have all believed that Coimbatore is going to be the centre of University Education, not merely technical but even in other spheres; when we all visualise that, we have among other things a salubrious climate. We have also people who are

prepared to look yonder to the whole world, men like Mr. G. D. Naidu, Dr. Shanmukham Chetty and a number of others who have earned international reputation. We are therefore confident that we will one day be able to justify the high hopes of our Vice-Chancellor. I do not want to take more of your time, Ladies and Gentlemen. I, on behalf of the citizens of Coimbatore, thank Dr. Lakshmanaswamy Mudaliar not only for his great speech but also for the assurances he has promised and I hope he and his colleagues will not only not falsify Mr. Naidu's hopes but will also be able to make out that this city stands out pre-eminent for greater and better opportunities of technical education.

Well, to you all, on behalf of Mr. Naidu, let me convey his thanks and wish you many more happy returns of such functions and that you will all participate in a greater and greater measure in his hobbies. Thank you!

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